

*canescens* appeared in a February brochure of the 'Biologia' (by inadvertence said to be March in my note), thus antedating the publication of *griseus* in the April Auk for the same year, 1889. In this connection both Mr. Brewster, with whom the matter had been discussed, and the writer had overlooked a footnote in Ridgway's 'Manual N. A. Birds,' 2d ed., p. 599, giving the date of publication of *griseus* as Jan. 31, 1889. Further inquiry has brought to light the fact that the author's separates of the paper in which *E. griseus* was described bears the following imprint: "[Author's edition, published Jan. 31, 1889.]" This early publication, antedating the appearance of 'The Auk,' and also the part of the 'Biologia' containing the name *canescens*, gives unquestionable priority to the name *griseus*, of which *canescens* must stand as a synonym.—E. W. NELSON, *Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

**The Raven near Portland, Maine.**—In 1882 I made note<sup>1</sup> of a Raven, presumably *Corvus corax principalis*, which was killed in the town of Cumberland, near Portland, December 31, 1875. <sup>o</sup>I examined the specimen at the time; but I do not know what became of it, and therefore cannot positively state that it represented *principalis*.

No doubt the Raven was to be found regularly about Portland in olden times;<sup>2</sup> but I am able to cite only one other record<sup>3</sup> of its occurrence within recent years, and that is regrettably indefinite. I have never seen the bird alive near the city. I have, however, seen a second local specimen. A handsome male, quite typical of *principalis*, was taken on Cape Elizabeth, January 12, 1884, was secured in the flesh for my collection and was transferred, a few years later, to the cabinet of the Portland Society of Natural History where it remains (No. 3773, N. C. B.).—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Me.*

**Two Ravens (*Corvus corax principalis*) Seen at Harpswell, Maine.**—In bringing the local status of the Raven up to date, it seems desirable to record two living examples which I saw at Little Mark Island, Harpswell, Maine, October 5, 1889. Little Mark Island is about nine and a half nautical miles nearly east of Portland.

The Raven was a bird with which I had had a long acquaintance: therefore, as I watched this pair under favorable conditions, and listened to their characteristic notes, I was perfectly sure of the identification.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Me.*

**The Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) in Georgia.**—A young male of this species was taken by Dr. Eugene Edmund Murphey at Augusta, Georgia, on September 23, 1893, and is now in his

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Portland Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. II, p. 17.

<sup>2</sup> See Brewster, Birds of the Cambridge Region, p. 237.

<sup>3</sup> Smith, Forest and Stream, Vol. XIX, 1883, p. 485.

collection. This specimen has been hitherto unrecorded. I am indebted to Dr. Murphey for the privilege of announcing its capture, which is the first record for Georgia. In the South Atlantic States this species was taken at Chester, South Carolina, by Mr. Leverett M. Loomis, on April 18, 1884. There is also a Florida record in Coues's 'Birds of the Northwest,' p. 188.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**A new Colorado Record for the White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*).**—On each of several different mornings during the latter part of last August, a pair of these birds were seen and closely observed by me at a ranch situated on a small tributary of upper Bear Creek, in Clear Creek County, Colo., at an altitude of about 8400 feet. My observations were made at very close range, with the aid of an excellent opera-glass, and were fully corroborated by Mr. Charles C. Truesdell of Syracuse, New York, as well as by other members of our party. On each of the three or four occasions when we saw them, the birds flew down to a small stream and as we were generally within fifteen feet of them, we enjoyed most perfect opportunities to make them out in every detail of their "field characters." The male and female staid close to each other, permitting us to note in a most satisfactory way, their characteristic cross bills and conspicuous, white double wing-bars, tending to, but not quite attaining, confluence, as well as all other external features of form, marking and coloration that characterize the species. On one occasion a female Mexican Crossbill (*L. curvirostra stricklandi*) joined the White-wings at the water's edge, and associated with them in a friendly way for several minutes, thus affording to me an excellent chance for comparison. The greater compactness and elegance, and smaller size, of the female *leucoptera* were noticeable. The Mexican, after remaining with the others for a time, joined her mate in a near-by spruce tree, where both staid motionless, though waiting for their aristocratic friends to conclude their repast (whatever it was). When the latter took flight the Mexican Crossbills left their perch and followed closely after.—ERNEST KNAEBEL, *Denver, Col.*

**An Early Date for the Arrival of the Ipswich Sparrow (*Passerculus princeps*) on the Coast of South Carolina.**—Being desirous of ascertaining the date upon which this species makes its appearance in the autumn, I visited Long Island (near Charleston) on November 3, 1906, and am satisfied that I flushed one, but was unable to secure it as it was very wild. On November 6 I again visited the island and succeeded in obtaining a female about four miles from the place where the specimen was flushed on the 3d. The specimen taken was moulting the feathers about the throat.

According to Mr. Brewster,<sup>1</sup> the Ipswich Sparrow occurs along the coast of Massachusetts by the middle of October. From Boston or Cape Cod to Charleston by the coast line is very nearly one thousand miles,

<sup>1</sup> W. Brewster, in H. D. Minot's Land-birds and Game-birds of New England, ed. 2, 1895, 201.